

## OGC Has Reviewed

25 November 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Foreign Agents Registration Act

1. You requested information on the Foreign Agents Registration Act in connection with a query by [REDACTED]. The pertinent provisions are in Sections 611 and 612 of Title 22 of the United States Code Annotated.

STATINTL

2. Section 611 defines the term "agent of a foreign principal" and primarily relates to those representing or acting as propaganda agents of foreign powers. By amendment, the definition includes anyone who has received training in the espionage, counterespionage, or sabotage services of a foreign country. Registration of those covered by this amendment is required unless the Attorney General or the Director of Central Intelligence determines that registration would not be in the interest of national security. This is the only exemption from registration.

3. Where registration is required, Section 612 sets forth the registration statement requirements. After setting forth considerable information which must be given, the Act requires:

"A Comprehensive statement of the nature of registrant's business; a complete list of registrant's employees and a statement of the nature of the work of each, unless, and to the extent, this requirement is waived in writing by the Attorney General; . . ."

Administration of registration, including exemption rulings, used to be handled by the Special War Policies Unit. This has now become the Foreign Agents Registration Section in the Department of Justice. In both cases the Chief is Mr. Foley, with whom the Foreign Intelligence Staff has for some time conducted a close and friendly liaison.

LAWRENCE R. HOUSTON